उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेश पचौरी) : अब माननीय उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री पैकेज मे रखे मिनरल वाटर मे पेस्टीसाइड्स अवशेषो की मौजूदगी के संबंध मे अपना वक्तव्य देगे।

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

PRESENCE OF PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN PACKAGED DRINKING AND MINERAL WATER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री शरद यादव) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका बहुत आभारी हूं कि आपने मुझे मौका दिया। मैं प्रणब जी का भी बहुत आभारी हूं। There has been much discussion in both Houses of Parliament...

प्रो. राम देव भंडारी (बिहार) : अंग्रेज़ी मे !

श्री शरद यादव : इसमे काफी टैक्निकल मामला है, इसलिए मैं माफी चाहता हूं। इसमे बहुत टैक्निकल वर्ड्स हैं, उन्हे हिन्दी मे बोलना तो ठीक नही था।

There has been much discussion in both Houses of Parliament and in the media on reports of pesticide residues found in samples of packaged drinking water and mineral water bearing the ISI mark. In this connection, with the permission of the hon'ble Chairman, I wish to make the following statement in this august house.

Two Indian Standards, one for Natural Mineral Water and another for Packaged Drinking Water, were formulated in 1998. These standards cover microbiological, physical and chemical safety of water.

In March 2001, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare enforced a gazette notification under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955, as per which Packaged Drinking Water and Mineral Water cannot be manufactured, sold or exhibited for sale without BIS Standard Mark, thereby making BIS Certification Mark mandatory. Ministry of Health is the enforcement authority and BIS is the certifying agency. BIS has so far granted more than 700 licences for packaged drinking water (including 1 in Nepal) and 6 licences for packaged natural mineral water (including one in France) to different manufacturers. The water manufactured in adherence to

these standards is entirely fit for human consumption. As clarified by the Minister of Health and Family Welfare in her response to a Calling Attention Motion in the Lok Sabha on February 20, 2003, according to the existing BIS Standards, pesticide residues should be below detectable limits when tested by the relevant method specified in the Indian Standards. This is in accordance with the PFA Rules, 1955.

Taking cognisance of various reports which appeared in the print and electronic media on 5th February, 2003 regarding a study conducted by an NGO, indicating the presence of pesticide residues in excess in samples of packaged drinking water and mineral water certified by BIS, the Government, on 5th February, 2003, constituted an Inquiry Committee under the Chairpersonship of Additional Secretary in the Department of Consumer Affairs with representatives from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, an expert in this field and Director, looking after BIS in the Department as Member Secretary. The Committee is enquiring into various issues related to BIS standards for packaged drinking water/ natural mineral water.

As Minister for Health & Family Welfare has indicated in the discussion following her Statement cited above, the Ministry has initiated legal steps for enforcement of revised standards. In the meanwhile, a seminar was convened by BIS on 13th February, 2003 to determine whether the existing product was fit for human consumption. The Centre for Science & Environmental Study itself states that pesticide residues even of the hazardous category 'in drinking water might have chronic effect *due to continuous exposure level above MRL* in drinking water'. The seminar was attended by eminent scientists representing Government bodies, consumers, representatives of industry and other stakeholders. The seminar affirmed that the Packaged Drinking Water now being produced according to the BIS Standards is fit for human consumption.

It is further stated that BIS standards are dynamic and are open to improvement as and when necessary. These standards are, however, reviewed as a policy once every five years in the normal course and were, in any case, due for revision in the middle of 2003. However, taking cognisance of the study conducted by CSE on the pesticide residues in Bottled Water, an emergency meeting of the relevant sectional committees was called on 7th February, 2003 to discuss the matter and consider amendment in the standards, if necessary. These Committees, after taking into consideration the limits laid down by USFDA, EU, WHO, Codex, etc.

and the fact that bottled water is a value added product, unanimously decided in the public/ consumer interest, to quantify the maximum limit for pesticide residues and made the necessary amendments to the two Indian Standards. These revised norms now form an amendment to the above Indian Standards. Internationally established test methods capable of detecting the above limits will be used for analysis of the above. The manufacturer has now also to produce 'No Objection Certification' from the Central/ State Government Ground Water Authority before obtaining BIS certification. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has initiated measures to amend the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules.

Simultaneously, inspections have been carried out across the country of all major manufacturing units and action taken under the BIS regulations against those found not in strict compliance with existing standards.

To set at rest any uncertainty among members of the public on contradictory reports that might have appeared in different sections of the Press, I once again affirm Government's determination to ensure the fullest long-term protection to public health. Thank you.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेश पचौरी) : इस पर स्पष्टीकरण कल पूछे जाएंगे।

श्री शरद यादव : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जब आप इस पर स्पष्टीकरण लेंगे, तब मैं विस्तार से इस मामले पर चर्चा करूंगा। अगर सदस्य अभी चर्चा करना चाहे तो कर सकते हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री लालू प्रसाद (बिहार) : महोदय, इनका स्टेटमेंट अंग्रेजी मे है। इनका दोष नही है। इन्होने जो स्टेटमेंट पढा है, उसमे काफी त्रुटियां हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेश पचौरी) : आपने त्रुटियां देख ली?

श्री लालू प्रसाद : जी हां, देखी हैं। जब तक हमे हिंदी का अनुवाद मिला, तब तक ये बैठ गए। हम लोग यह जानना चाहते हैं कि अभी तक यह पानी मार्केट मे धड़ल्ले से बिक रहा है और इतने दिनों तक पैस्टिसाइड्स मिला हुआ पानी पीने से काफी लोग आक्रांत भी हुए होगे, उनका क्या होगा? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: Don't guide the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री लालू प्रसाद : आगे आप क्या करना चाहते हैं, इस बारे में आपको स्पष्टीकरण देना चाहिए। कीटाणुओं से संक्रमित पानी पीने से भांति-भांति की बीमारियां होंगी। इसका खर्चा इनका विभाग वहन करेगा या नहीं?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेश पचौरी) : लालू जी, आपके आने से पहले ऐसा तय हुआ है कि मंत्री जी के इस वक्तव्य पर स्पष्टीकरण कल पूछे जाएंगे। आप कृपया इस मामले मे स्पष्टीकरण कल पूछिए।

श्री शरद यादव : मैं तो अभी भी सफाई देने के लिए तैयार हूं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेश पचौरी) : नहीं, स्पष्टीकरण कल पूछे जाएंगे। अब राष्ट्रपति जी के अभिभाषण पर प्रस्तुत धन्यवाद प्रस्ताव पर चर्चा जारी रहेगी। श्री ललित सूरी जी, आप बोलिए।

MOTION OF THANKS ON PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS - Contd.

SHRI LALIT SURI (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I stand here to support the proposal to thank the hon. President for showing India's Vision of Development. The President has rightly complimented the contribution and the courage shown by Kalpana Chawla in her adventure for the benefit of mankind. I join the House in paying homage to her.

Sir, I wish to express my views, having some background knowledge in the fields of industry and economy. I shall confine myself to the issues related thereto. The ultimate object of the governance is the management of the nation. It involves the management of economy. The object of economic management is to ensure that poverty is eliminated, growth rates are improved upon, jobs are created, and infrastructure is built up. They will, collectively, improve the quality of life, which we ensure to the people of our country.

Sir, it is only the investment which will begin the process of growth. Investment will involve economic activity. It must involve profitability. It is only the investment, economic activity and profitability which will help in creating jobs. It is only the profitability which will ensure the payment of revenues. It is only the larger revenues which will ensure infrastructure, and it is only the infrastructure which will attract greater investment. It is only when the circle becomes faster and bigger that we can ensure economic benefit to Indians.